















App. No. 09/825,628 Amendment dated May 2, 2005 Reply to Office Action of Nov. 1, 2004 Replacement Sheet

RECEIVING CHANNEL SPECIFIC ENCODED MEDIA SIGNALS AND PERFORMING CHANEL SPECIFIC DECODING TO PROVIDE RECEIVED DECODED SIGNALS THAT INCLUDE MEDIA SIGNALS AND BIT RATE CONVERSION INFORMATION

210

DISTRIBUTING SIGNALS ORIGINATING FROM VARIOUS MEDIA SOURCES TO VARIOUS PORTIONS OF THE HEADEND, AT EACH PORTION SPLITTING THE RECEIVED DECODED SIGNALS TO HEADEND POTENTIALLY BIT RATE CONVERTED MEDIA SIGNALS, BIT RATE REDUCTION INFORMATION, AND ADDITIONAL SIGNALS SUCH AS NON HEADEND POTENTIALLY BIT RATE CONVERTED MEDIA SIGNALS, DATA SIGNALS, STATUS AND CONTROL SIGNALS

220

DETERMINING HOW TO MATCH THE AVAILABLE BANDWIDTH OF A DOWNSTREAM CHANNEL AND THE BIT RATE OF AN ENHANCED SECONDARY PACKETIZED STREAM IN VIEW OF BIT RATE CONVERSION INFORMATION FROM VARIOUS PORTIONS OF THE HEADEND, DOWNSTREAM BANDWIDTH INFORMATION AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SUCH AS PRIORITIES, DELAY SENSITIVITY, AND THE LIKE

230

PERFORMING BIT RATE CONVERSION OPERATIONS ON HEADEND POTENTIALLY BIT RATE CONVERTED MEDIA SIGNALS IN VIEW OF THE DETERMINATION

240

COMBINING BIT RATE CONVERTED SIGNALS AND THE ADDITIONAL SIGNALS TO FORM A SECONDARY ENHANCED PACKETIZED STREAM AND PROVIDING THE ENHANCED SECONDARY PACKETIZED STREAM TO THE DOWNSTREAM CHANNEL

<u>250</u>

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